

RWDC Boilerplate Language

The Real World Design Challenge (RWDC) is a new annual competition that provides high school students with the opportunity to apply the lessons of the classroom to the technical problems currently faced in the engineering field. The purpose of the RWDC is to ensure the future of our nation's economic competitiveness by inspiring today's students to become tomorrow's engineers. The theme for the 2009 Challenge is "Aviation and Fuel Consumption."

The RWDC first took place at the state level with the Governor's Challenge. Student teams were asked to redesign an existing aircraft to maximize its fuel efficiency while meeting specific performance capabilities. Students used professional engineering software to develop their solutions. Each participating state selected its top team to compete at the RWDC National Challenge, to be held March 20 – 22, 2009 in Washington, DC. The U.S. Department of Energy will provide the ten winning state teams with expense-paid trips to the national competition.

The National Challenge adds several components to the original aviation design challenge. Teams are asked to develop a marketing presentation explaining how and why they arrived at their proposed solution. Presentations will be made before an expert panel representing professionals from industry, academia and the federal government. Winners will be chosen based on the teams' design solutions, presentations and project journals.

The Real World Design Challenge is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Science, in partnership with Parametric Technology Corporation, Cessna Aircraft Company, the Federal Aviation Administration, and the States of Connecticut, Hawaii, Kansas, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Virginia, and Washington.

For more information on the Real World Design Challenge, please go to:
<http://www.scied.science.doe.gov/RWDC/index.html>